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Public Interest Law Summer Fellowships 2003

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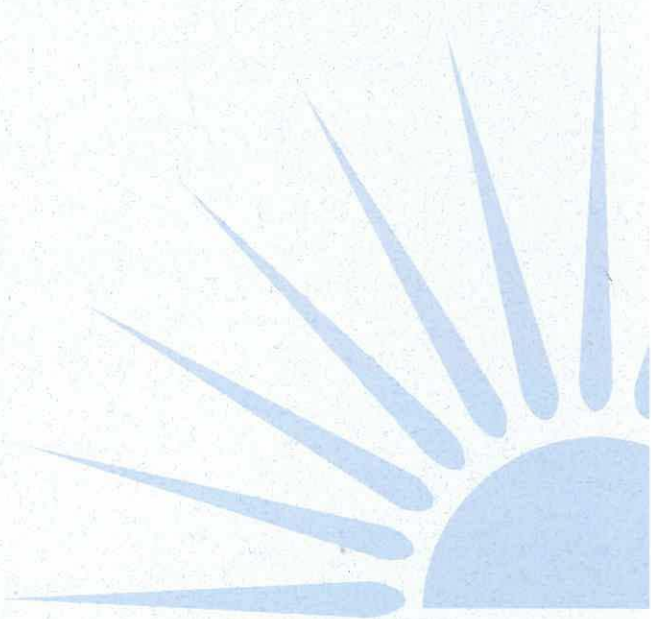
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Public Interest Law Summer Fellowships



Summer 2003
Shepard Broad Law Center

Mission Statement

NSU's Public Interest Law Society (formerly NAPIL-National Association for Public Interest Law) is a student-run organization founded in 1994 to promote public interest legal employment opportunities and to overcome the economic barriers that confront future public interest lawyers. The purpose of this fellowship is to provide funding to students who serve community needs by working in a legal position in the public interest field. Public interest work is defined, for the purposes of this fellowship, as work for a nonprofit organization that serves a low-income, underfunded and/or under-represented community. Preference will be given to students who choose to work for Legal Aid or Legal Services agencies. Students selected for these fellowships will positively reflect the goals and objectives of the Public Interest Law Society and the Shepard Broad Law Center and will have demonstrated an interest in serving the public interest community.

Student Eligibility

The fellowship is open to first- and second-year (and third-year evening) law students enrolled at the Shepard Broad Law Center. In order to be considered for the fellowship, students must first make arrangements for a pro bono placement at a public interest organization. Students must have a minimum 2.0 grade point average when they apply and when the fellowship begins in order to receive a fellowship award. Students receiving academic credit for their work are not eligible for the fellowship. Students may not receive pro bono credit for their fellowship work.

Amount of Award/Impact on Financial Aid

The stipend amounts will depend on the number of applicants, the number of hours/weeks worked by an applicant, and the availability of additional funding to the applicant.

The Public Interest Law Summer Fellowships are awarded in the form of scholarships credited against tuition. Applicants presently receiving financial aid should be aware that their particular financial situation may result in the award being credited to their student account for the 2003–2004 academic year. Before applying for a Public Interest Law Summer Fellowship, students should speak to their financial aid counselor and/or review their financial aid profile to determine any limitations that may be imposed on them in connection with the awarding of this fellowship, and discuss the limitations in their applications, as indicated.

Application Requirements

All items below must be received in a timely fashion. No exceptions will be made.

1. A cover letter to the committee indicating the following:
 - a. name, Social Security number, and anticipated date of graduation
 - b. address and telephone number and summer address and telephone number, if different
 - c. expected place of employment and number of hours per week you intend to work
 - d. any additional source of funding you are applying for/expect to receive for your work
2. Current resume
3. Law Center transcript (official or unofficial)
4. One- to two-page statement explaining why you believe you should receive the stipend. This statement should reflect any prior commitment to the public interest law community, other community involvement, reasons for wanting to work with the current organization, and any other factors pertinent to the application.
5. Letter or written statement of verification from expected employer detailing the job description and verifying that you have been hired or are currently being considered for the available position.
6. A statement describing your financial need, including debts incurred, means by which you are paying for your legal education, and any other proposed sources of funding.

Decision Committee

Applications will be reviewed by a committee composed of Public Interest Law Society law students working with at least one faculty member or administrator. Student Social Security numbers, transcripts, and financial data will be reviewed only by a faculty member and/or administrator.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting a completed application is Friday, April 4, 2003. Please submit completed applications directly to the Public Interest Law Center, located in Career Development.

Responsibilities of Fellowship Recipients

Students who receive fellowships must fulfill the terms of employment as submitted in the application. If a student does not complete such terms, he or she will be required to repay the money awarded.

At the completion of employment, the student is required to submit a one- to two-page report to the Public Interest Law Center by Friday, September 5, 2003, documenting the fellowship experience. The student also must obtain a letter from the employer confirming that the student has satisfactorily fulfilled the terms of the employment.

By accepting the fellowships, students consent to their names being forwarded to the national Equal Justice Works (formerly NAPIL) organization for possible use in publicity materials. Students may also be requested to submit their reports for publication or to speak about their experiences at a future law school event.

Additional Information and Assistance in Finding a Summer Placement

For resource materials for finding a summer placement, and counseling regarding this and other public interest law opportunities, please visit the Public Interest Law Center, located in the Career Development Office.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Law Center admits students of any race, sex, sexual orientation, age, color, nondisqualifying handicap, religion, or national or ethnic origin.

Accreditation

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097: Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

The Shepard Broad Law Center is accredited by the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association (750 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611: Telephone number: 312-988-6738)



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Public Interest Law Center

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